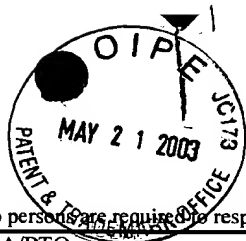


Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → [+]



PTO/SB08A (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002 OMB 0651-0031
Patent and Trademark Office; U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no person is required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

SHEET 1 of 1

COMPLETE IF KNOWN

Application Number	09/980,796
Confirmation Number	8548
Filing Date	December 3, 2001
First Named Inventor	N. J. Gordon
Group Art Unit	1751
Examiner Name	G. R. DelCotto
Attorney Docket Number	7640

RECEIVED
MAY 22 2003
1700

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. ¹	DOCUMENT NUMBER Number - Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
ND		US-3,320,215	05-16-1967	Conte et al.	
ND		US-3,663,444	05-16-1972	Schmadel	
ND		US-4,144,123	03-13-1979	Scharf et al.	
ND		US-4,597,898	07-01-1986	Vander Meer	
ND		US-4,634,544	01-06-1987	Weber et al.	
ND		US-6,111,056	08-29-2000	Hildebrandt et al.	
ND		US-6,376,446 B1	04-23-2002	Smadi et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. ¹	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENT Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
ND		WO 98/29527 A1	07-09-1998	The Procter & Gamble Co.		
ND		WO 98/29530 A2	07-09-1998	The Procter & Gamble Co.		
ND		WO 99/02632 A1	01-21-1999	The Procter & Gamble Co.		
ND		WO 99/14300 A1	03-25-1999	The Procter & Gamble Co.		
ND		WO 00/22077 A1	04-20-2000	The Procter & Gamble Co.		
ND		WO 00/29527 A2	05-25-2000	Stabley		
ND		WO 00/49122 A1	08-24-2000	The Procter & Gamble Co.		

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ⁶
EXAMINER		DATE CONSIDERED 7/18/03	

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

7